

Ed Extras

Helpful information about learning brought to you by Reading Rockets, Colorín Colorado, and LD OnLine

Ready to Read *Heading for the Classroom*

By U.S. Department of Education

*Parents — you are your child's most important teacher!
Using a few of these ideas, you can help your child enter the
classroom ready to read.*

■ **Read with your child for 30 minutes each day.**

Just like vitamins help your child's body grow strong, reading time helps develop your child's brain. Build up kids' "literacy nutrition" by reading with them every day!

■ **Visit the library and give books as gifts.**

Children should have lots of opportunities to read at home. A librarian can help you find the right books for your child, and you can also find great recommendations on the Reading Rockets Web site: www.ReadingRockets.org

■ **Limit TV.**

A good collection of books and other activities can help stop the TV from taking over your child's free time.

■ **Show your child that reading is fun.**

Children learn what to expect about school and learning from the adults in their lives. When you read with them, and they see you reading for fun, children will become more interested in reading, too. They will also be more likely to keep trying if or when reading gets tough.

Adapted from *Fast Facts on Raising Readers: What Families Can Do*. America Reads Challenge, U.S. Department of Education, 2004.

For more information on helping children learn to read, visit ReadingRockets.org

Visit our sister sites, ColorinColorado.org and LDOnLine.org, for more information about learning.



Reading Rockets, Colorín Colorado, and LD OnLine are services of public television station WETA, Washington, D.C. Reading Rockets is funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs. Colorín Colorado, a web service to help English language learners become better readers, is funded by the American Federation of Teachers, the National Institute for Literacy, and the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs. LD OnLine is the world's leading website on learning disabilities and ADHD, with major funding from Lindamood-Bell Learning Processes.